

2002 OLYMPIC GOLD & SILVER MEDALIST DEREK PARRA NAMED OFFICIAL SPOKESPERSON OF BIG BEAR MOUNTAIN PREMIUM SPRING WATER

Sponsorship Gives Parra Financial Backing to Pursue Olympic Gold in 2006

SAN MANUEL INDIAN NATION, Calif. – May 17, 2002 – The San Manuel Bottled Water Group, the latest economic enterprise of the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians and the Inland Empire's newest bottled water producer, today introduced Olympic gold medalist Derek Parra as the official spokesperson for Big Bear Mountain Premium Spring Water at a press conference. The San Bernardino native also announced that the sponsorship will allow him the opportunity and financial backing to train and defend his Salt Lake City gold and silver medal speed skating performance at the 2006 Olympics in Torino, Italy.

"It's a very exciting time in my life," said Derek Parra, the first Mexican-American to both compete and medal in any Olympic Winter Games. "Coming out of the Olympics, my wife and I had pretty much decided that my competitive skating career was over. It was time to come home, get a job and move on with life. Now, thanks to the support of Big Bear Mountain Premium Spring Water and the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians I will be able to support my family AND train for 2006. This kind of support is something that most Olympic athletes dream of, but very few ever receive. I'm so grateful that Big Bear has rallied behind me – both for me and the City of San Bernardino. They truly are helping to keep this dream alive."

The four-year agreement reached with Big Bear Mountain Premium Spring Water includes health insurance for Derek, his wife, Tiffany, and newborn daughter, Mia. Derek will also participate in and serve as an "ambassador" to the community at a number of Big Bear Mountain Premium Spring Water-sponsored events.

"We are very pleased to have Derek as our spokesperson and join the Big Bear Mountain Premium Spring Water family," said Peter Willis, San Manuel Bottled Water Group general manager. "The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians have a rich tradition of supporting the local community. We're proud to partner with Derek and provide the financial support he needs to train and bring another gold home to San Bernardino in 2006."

A billboard at the San Bernardino Stampede's stadium was also unveiled in recognition of Parra. Local San Bernardino businesses including Big Bear Mountain Premium Spring Water, the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians and Stater Bros. supermarkets, partnered with the San Bernardino Stampede minor league baseball club to produce the 60-foot tall "building wrap" billboard.

About San Manuel Bottled Water Group and Big Bear Mountain Premium Spring Water

San Manuel Bottled Water Group, an economic enterprise of the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, produces Big Bear Mountain Premium Spring Water. The San Manuel Bottled Water Group embarked on its mission to share the same crisp, refreshing and clean tasting water that the Tribe's native ancestors have enjoyed for centuries. Big Bear Mountain Premium Spring Water comes from isolated springs that have been protected by people living in harmony with the environment everyday, and is the only spring water in Southern California bottled at the source.

Distributed initially within the Inland Empire, Big Bear Mountain Premium Spring Water can now be found at local markets including Stater Bros. supermarkets and Albertson's, and is available in a number of convenient sizes for consumers. Big Bear Mountain Premium Spring

Water is also available in 3-and 5-gallon bottles for home and office delivery within the Inland Empire. To order home or office delivery, visit www.bigbearspring.com or call 1-866-DRINK-H2O or 1-888-MTN-PURE.